

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8321

INFO OSD/ISA/FMRA WASHDC

OSD/OGC WASHDC

CSAF WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

CINPAC

CDR 3TAW CLARK AB

3 CSG CLARK AB

CINCPACREPPHIL SUBIC

CG 13TH AF CLARK

DCR 604TH MASS CLARK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MANILA 13394

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: IMMIGRATION: GOP DESIRE TO STATION OFFICIALS AT CLARK

REF: MANILA 13171

SUMMARY: PHILIPPINE IMMIGRATION OFFICER HAS APPROACHED EMBASSY TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF ASSIGNING IMMIGRATION OFFICERS TO CLARK AIR BASE INIMMEDIATE FUTURE. EMBOFF PROVIDED COPY OF US PROPOSED MBA ARTICLE XI WITH IMPLEMENTING NOTE AND INQUIRED WHETHER THIS ISSUE COULD BE NEGOTIATED SEPARATE FROM OVERALL MBA NEGOTIATIONS. IMMIGRATION OFFICER INDICATED HE WAS AMENABLE TO THIS APPROACH BUT WOULD NEED TO DISCUSS WITH COMMISSIONER OF IMMIGRATION AND DFA.
END SUMMARY.

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1. POL/MIL OFFICER AND LEGAL OFFICER MET WITH DEMESA OF BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION ON NOV 8 TO DISCUSS ISSUES RAISED BY REITERATED GOP DESIRE TO STATION IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS AT CLARK. DEMESA WAS PROVIDED COPY OF US MBA ARTICLE XI PROPOSAL (STATE 075315). PHILOSOPHY OF US PROPOSAL WAS EXPLAINED TO HIM AT SOME LENGTH, PARTICULARLY US INTENT HAVE BOTH DRAFT ARTICLE AND IMPLEMENTING NOTE BE MATTERS OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT.

2. DEMESA READ US PROPOSAL AND NOTED THAT IT CONTAINED ADDITIONAL CATEGORIES OF PERSONS TO BE AUTHORIZED TO ENTER BASES WITHOUT VISAS. IN EXPLAINING LATTER PROPOSALS, OFFS STATED US DESIRE TO MAKE IMMIGRATION PROVISION AS EXPLICIT AS FEASIBLE AND REMOVE AS MUCH AMBIGUITY AS POSSIBLE FROM IMPLEMENTATION. CLARIFICATION OF STATUS OF LEAVE PERSONNEL TRAVELING ON SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS CITED AS PARTICULARLY USEFUL STEP ENVISAGED BY US PROPOSAL. DEMESA GRASPED QUICKLY IMPLICATION FOR INCREASE IN MILITARY TOURISM REPRESENTED BY POSSIBLE TREATMENT OF LEAVE PERSONNEL AT CLARK IN SAME MANNER AS OTHER TOURISTS ENTERING PHILIPPINES AT MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. NEVERTHELESS, HE POINTED OUT DIFFICULTIES DFA WOULD HAVE IN ALLOWING LEAVE PERSONNEL, NOT ASSIGNED TO PHILIPPINES, ENTER CLARK WITHOUT VISAS. HE SUGGESTED THAT REMEDY FOR LEGAL AND OTHER DIFFICULTIES RAISED BY US PROPOSAL COULD BE FOUND BY HAVING CLARK DECLARED A PORT OF ENTRY BY GOP. HE RECOMMENDED THAT EMBASSY REQUEST THAT CLARK BE SO DESIGNATED IF AND WHEN AGREEMENT FINALIZED ON STATIONING OF IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS ON BASE.

3. DEMESA SAID, IN THIS CONNECTION, THAT A MORE IMMEDIATE BENEFIT HE COULD SEE IN THE STATIONING OF SUCH OFFICIALS AT CLARK WAS THAT IT COULD LEAD TO TERMINATION PRESENT CUMBERSOME SYSTEM OF SECURING RE-ENTRY PERMITS FOR DEPENDENTS AND DOD CIVILIANS. HE PROPOSED THAT BASE COMMANDERS AT CLARK AND SUBIC BE PROVIDED AUTHORITY TO ACCOMPLISH NECESSARY US ATTESTATION AND SUPERVISING IMMIGRATION OFFICIAL BE DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY GOP TO ACCOMPLISH GOP ATTESTATION. (FYI: THIS PROCEDURE WOULD GREATLY REDUCE TIME NOW NECESSARY TO GET RE-ENTRY PERMIT AND WOULD REDUCE LOAD ON EMBASSY'S CONSULAR SECTION DRAMATICALLY. END FYI)

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4. DEMESA WAS TOLD HIS PROPOSAL WAS ATTRACTIVE AND US AIR FORCE AND NAVY MIGHT WELL HAVE OTHER IDEAS FOR RELAXING AND STREAMLINING IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES, IF AND WHEN IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS WOULD BE AVAILABLE AT THE BASES. HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE FIRST NECESSARY TO PURSUE BASIC QUESTION OF DRAFT ARTICLE XI WITH DFA. DEMESA AGREED BUT SAID THERE SEEMED NO REASON WHY POSSIBLE AGREEMENT ON IMMIGRATION ARTICLE AND

ITS IMPLEMENTING NOTE SHOULD AWAIT AGREEMENT ON AND RENEGOTIATION OF THE ENTIRE MBA. HE WAS ASKED WHETHER HE FORESAW THE POSSIBILITY OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE MBA ON ARTICLE XI THAT MIGHT BE SIMILAR TO THE AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE XIII (CRIMINAL JURISDICTION) OF 1965. HE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW BUT WOULD CONSULT DFA.

5. DEMESA SAID HE UNDERSTOOD VERY WELL THE NECESSITY OF GETTING BROAD AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES BEFORE PROCEEDING TO DETAILS, BUT HE WANTED TO CLARIFY HIS IDEAS OF HOW IMMIGRATION PEOPLE WOULD OPERATE. HE USED SUBIC AS AN EXAMPLE AND SAID HE WANTED APPROXIMATELY THE SAME ARRANGEMENT AT CLARK AS IS ALREADY FUNCTIONING AT SUBIC, NAMELY THAT IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS ARE QUARTERED OUTSIDE THE BASE, ENTER THE BASE WHEN NON-MILITARY VESSELS ENTER, PERFORM THEIR FUNCTIONS AND DEPART WHEN THEIR FUNCTION IS COMPLETED. HE NOTED HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT OVERWHELMING PERCENTAGE OF PASSENGERS USING MAC TERMINAL AT CLARK FLY ON SCHEDULED MAC CHARTERS AND HE SAID HE FORESAW NO PROBLEM IN PROCESSING INCOMING OR OUTGOING PASSENGERS SINCE, OBVIOUSLY, USG WOULD BE CONCERNED TO SEE THAT EVERYONE WAS PROPERLY DOCUMENTED. THUS, MAIN TASK OF IMMIGRATION OFFICERS WOULD BE TO REVIEW PASSENGER LISTS TO MAKE CERTAIN PERSONS WHO DID NOT WISH TO ENTER OR TO DEPART PHILIPPINES NOT ON BOARD. WHEN ASKED HOW LONG SUCH REVIEWS WOULD TAKE, HE SAID IT COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN THE PRESENT PROCESSING TIME. HE WAS ADVISED THAT THERE WERE ALSO MANY NON-SCHEDULED MILITARY FLIGHTS CARRYING CARGO AND PASSENGERS THAT ARRIVE AT UNPREDICTABLE TIMES; HE INDICATED HE DID NOT BELIEVE THIS WOULD PRESENT PROBLEM. HOWEVER, HE MAY NOT HAVE ADEQUATELY UNDERSTOOD THAT CLARK MAC TERMINAL IS 24-HOUR OPERATION.

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8322

INFO OSD/ISA/FMRA WASHDC

OSD/OGC WASHDC
CSAF WASHDC
CNO WASHDC
CINCPAC
CDR 3TAW CLARK AB
3 CSG CLARK AB
CINCPACREPPHIL SUBIC
CG 13TH AF CLARK
DCR 604TH MASS CLARK

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

6. DEMESA IMPLIED STRONGLY THAT MAIN REASON FOR GOP INTEREST IN PURSUING STATIONING QUESTION WAS FACT THAT CLARK WAS SECOND IN IMPORTANCE AS PORT OF ENTRY ONLY TO MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND MARTIAL LAW REGIME HAD DECIDED IT WAS ANOMALOUS THAT GOP HAD NO AUTHORITY OVER WHO ENTERED AND DEPARTED COUNTRY FROM THIS IMPORTANT ACCESS POINT. DEMESA SAID GOP NOT INTERESTED IN QUESTION OF CHECKING ON MOVEMENTS OF PURELY MILITARY AIRCRAFT, OR TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT CARRYING ONLY MILITARY PERSONNEL. HE SAID GOP IMMIGRATION CONCERN WOULD BE WITH DEPENDENTS AND CIVILIANS, BOTH US AND FILIPINO.

7. DEMESA REPEATEDLY STRESSED THAT GOP HAD NO INTENTION OF INTERFERING WITH OR IN ANY WAY COMPLICATING FUNCTIONING
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OF MAC TERMINAL. HE SAID HE WAS WELL AWARE OF EXTREME CAUTION WITH WHICH USG WOULD APPROACH QUESTION OF STATIONING IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS AT CLARK AND, ON BASIS OF PAST USG EXPERIENCES WITH HARRASSMENT BY LOCAL OFFICIALS IN ANGELES AREA, UNDERSTOOD THAT CAUTION. POL/MIL OFFICER SAID THIS WAS HELPFUL BECAUSE GOP WOULD, THEREFORE, UNDERSTAND THAT USG WILL WISH TO HAVE BOTH THE ARTICLE XI AND ITS IMPLEMENTING NOTE PLUS DETAILS OF STATIONING OF OFFICIALS AGREED BEFORE PROCEEDING. ONCE FULL AGREEMENT REACHED, HOWEVER, DEMESA INFORMED IT PROBABLE STATIONING COULD TAKE PLACE QUICKLY.

8. DEMESA NOTED THAT QUESTION OF ARTICLE XI AND IMPLEMENTING NOTE WOULD BE QUOTE IN HANDS OF STRIPED PANTS BOYS END QUOTE ALTHOUGH BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION WOULD NATURALLY BE CONSULTED BY DFA. HOWEVER, HE SAID IMMIGRATION INTENDED THAT ITS OFFICIALS WOULD IMPACT ADMINISTRATIVELY AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE ON CLARK, FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID NO PX OR SIMILAR

PRIVILEGES WOULD BE ALLOWED OR SOUGHT FOR SUCH PERSONNEL;
THEREFORE, HE THOUGHT THE PRINCIPAL DETAILED QUESTIONS TO
BE RESOLVED WOULD BE IN AREA OF WORKING ARRANGEMENTS.

9. MEETING ENDED VERY AMICABLY WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR
NEXT STEP ON GOP TO PROVIDE ITS REACTION TO USG ARTICLE
XI PROPOSAL.

10. DEMESA AGREED TO HOLD OFF HIS VISIT TO CLARK UNTIL
HE COULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY EMBOFFS. REQUEST CLARK CONTACT
PALMER TO ARRANGE SUCH VISIT.

11. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES GOP DESIRE TO STATION
IMMIGRATION OFFICERS AT CLARK MAY PROVIDE INCENTIVE TO
RESOLVE PREVIOUSLY INTRACTABLE IMMIGRATION ISSUE OUTSIDE
OF OVERALL MBA NEGOTIATIONS. TO ATTEMPT RESOLVE ONE HARD
CORE MBA ISSUE IN THIS FASHION MAY BE BEST TACTIC, ESPECIALLY
AS IMMIGRATION ISSUES ALONE HAVE BENEFICIAL ELEMENTS FOR
BOTH PARTIES AND CAN EASILY BE SEPARATED FROM OTHER MBA
PROBLEMS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT PRESENT GOP PROPOSAL
APPEARS TO BE ENTIRELY DIRECTED AT CLARK AS APPARENTLY
GOP UNDER IMPRESSION THAT SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT ALREADY
EXISTS AT SUBIC AND FILIPINOS SIMPLY HAVE NOT YET FOCUSED
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ON AIR TRAFFIC AT CUBI POINT, WHERE THERE FAIRLY FREQUENT
CHARTER FLIGHTS. EMBASSY RECOGNIZES THAT ANY NEGOTIATED
REGIME WOULD BE APPLICABLE TO BOTH BASES, AND WILL ENSURE POINT IS
COVERED AT APPROPRIATE TIME.
SULLIVAN

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